



City of Middletown

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

For Immediate Release

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MAYOR BEN FLORSHEIM ANNOUNCES SELECTION OF JOHN "JAY" WORON II AS MIDDLETOWN FIRE CHIEF

MIDDLETOWN -- Mayor Ben Florsheim is pleased to announce John "Jay" Woron II is his selection to become the next Chief of the Middletown Fire Department. Jay has served as Acting Chief of the department since the retirement of Chief Robert Kronenberger and Deputy Chief Albert Leary in July. The appointment is subject to approval by a vote of the Common Council.

Before being appointed Acting Chief, Jay served as Assistant Chief (#3 in the department) for the past 15 years, overseeing the Training Division, EMS Division, and Safety Division. Jay began his career as a volunteer firefighter in Wallingford and served as a volunteer fire chief for ten years before joining the Middletown Fire Department in 1997 and moving to the city shortly thereafter. He is a third-generation firefighter, holds an Executive Fire Officer certification from the National Fire Academy, serves as the Director of Training for the Middlesex County Regional Fire School and as a 33-year instructor at the Connecticut Fire Academy, and has received 22 commendations from the Middletown Fire Department over the course of his career.

"Middletown is fortunate to have an outstanding fire service that has truly come into its own under the leadership of Chief Kronenberger and Deputy Chief Leary," Mayor Florsheim said. "They leave big shoes to fill, but I am confident that Acting Chief Woron is well-equipped to do the job. His experience, training, and relationships within the department helped him rise to the top in a field of truly outstanding candidates. He is the person best equipped to take the reins of the department on day one, with no learning curve, and for that reason I know he has the confidence of the men and women of the Middletown Fire Department as well."



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“I also believe that Jay, as one of the primary architects of the highly trained and educated but relatively young department that we currently have, is the right person to lead the fire service into the future. He will not only be able to lead the department effectively as Chief, but also lay the groundwork for the transition of the younger firefighters and officers into senior leadership roles, setting the department up for success for many years to come.”

“It is a supreme honor to have been chosen by Mayor Florsheim to be the next Fire Chief of the Middletown Fire Department,” Acting Chief Woron said. “I am extremely fortunate to succeed Chief Robert Kronenberger. Chief Kronenberger moved the organization forward and leaves it in tremendous shape.

“The citizens and visitors of the City of Middletown are fortunate to be protected by the very talented and experienced men and women of the Middletown Fire Department. The services provided by our department rival any fire department in the State of Connecticut. It is an honor to defend the legacy built by those members of the department that came before us, those who serve now and those who will serve in the future. We look forward to continue to accomplish great things as a department moving forward.”

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